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Letter dated 23 May 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee

I have the honour to submit herewith the national report of the Government of Mongolia on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2397 (2017) (see annex).

I would kindly request you to issue it as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sukhbold **Sukhee**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 23 May 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee

Report of Mongolia on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2397 (2017)

Pursuant to paragraph 17 of Security Council resolution 2397 (2017), Mongolia hereby submits its report on the measures taken to implement the resolution.

1. Overview

Mongolia is committed to a nuclear-weapon-free world and has consistently been supporting every effort of the international community to promote the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and towards achieving nuclear disarmament.

Mongolia has fully implemented its obligations under relevant Security Council resolutions on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and duly submitted its reports (S/AC.49/2007/21, S/AC.49/2014/5, S/AC.49/2016/39, S/AC.49/2017/41 and S/AC.49/2017/158).

After its adoption by the Security Council, resolution 2397 (2017) was immediately circulated to all the relevant ministries, agencies and organizations, which further disseminated the contents of the resolution to subsidiary bodies, entities and businesses.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia continues to be the Government entity responsible for the overall coordination of the implementation of the provisions of resolution 2397 (2017) and all other related Security Council resolutions on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

2. Implementation measures

Mongolia is fully committed to the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1718 (2006), 1874 (2009), 2087 (2013), 2094 (2013), 2270 (2016), 2321 (2016), 2356 (2017), 2371 (2017), 2375 (2017) and 2397 (2017) on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. In addition to the information provided in the previous reports on the implementation of Security Council resolutions relating to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Mongolia hereby reports on some updates concerning the implementation of concrete provisions of resolution 2397 (2017) as set out below.

A. Designations (paragraph 3)

Relevant border control authorities have been informed of the provisions of resolution 2397 (2017) and of their obligations thereunder. No individual listed in annex I to resolution 2397 (2017) and the previous resolutions on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for a travel ban has entered into or transited through the territory of Mongolia.

The Central Bank of Mongolia and the General Intelligence Agency have been informed of the provisions of resolution 2397 (2017), specifically of the names of individuals and entities listed in annexes I and II to resolution 2397 (2017) regarding an asset freeze, and of their obligations thereunder. Relevant authorities continue to strictly monitor and ensure the implementation of the measures of Security Council resolutions regarding these individuals and entities.

B. Sectoral (paragraphs 4–8)

Relevant agencies and businesses of Mongolia have been informed of and updated on the new contents and measures regarding the export, import, transfer and inspection of goods. Mongolian authorities have carried out thorough reviews and found no information on the procurement, supply, sale or transfer of the goods and items, including crude oil, food and agricultural products (HS codes 12, 08, 07), machinery (HS code 84), electrical equipment (HS code 85), earth and stone, including magnesite and magnesia (HS code 25), wood (HS code 44), vessels (HS code 89), industrial machinery (HS codes 84 and 85), transportation vehicles (HS codes 86 through 89), and iron, steel and other metals (HS codes 72 through 83) prohibited under paragraphs 4 to 7 of Security Council resolution 2397 (2017).

Relevant ministries and border control and customs authorities have been reminded of their obligations under the Security Council resolutions 1718 (2006), 1874 (2009), 2087 (2013), 2094 (2013), 2270 (2016), 2321 (2016), 2356 (2017), 2371 (2017), 2375 (2017) and 2397 (2017), including those related to the inspection of all personal luggage and baggage of nationals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and of others travelling to or from that country, as well as of cargo being sent to or from the country, or for which brokering or facilitation is provided by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea or its nationals, or by individuals or entities acting on their behalf. There has been no case registered or reported in this regard.

Mongolia has been strictly complying with paragraph 8 of resolution 2397 (2017) regarding the repatriation of nationals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from its territory.

In accordance with paragraph 17 of resolution 2375 (2017) the decision has been taken not to provide new work authorizations for nationals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. On 3 June 2018, the agreement on the exchange of labour between the Government of Mongolia and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will expire. As of 31 March 2018, 445 workers from that country had been repatriated from Mongolia, in addition to 200 workers from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who were expelled in 2016. In accordance with paragraph 8 of resolution 2397 (2017), the Government of Mongolia is working with the Embassy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to organize an orderly withdrawal of the relevant workers.

C. Maritime interdiction of cargo vessels (paragraphs 9–16)

Mongolia is a landlocked country. Currently, there are 341 foreign vessels carrying the Mongolian flag on the high seas. There had been some vessels from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea carrying the Mongolian flag, prior to the adoption of Security Council resolutions 2270 (2016) and 2321 (2016). Pursuant to paragraph 19 of Security Council resolution 2270 (2016), 17 vessels associated with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea were deregistered and their contracts were terminated in 2015–2016. Moreover, four vessels operating under Mongolian flag that had allegedly transported coal from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea were deregistered in 2017. Currently, there is no vessel of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea operating under the Mongolian flag.

D. Political (paragraph 27)

In paragraph 27 of its resolution 2397 (2017), the Security Council welcomes efforts by Council members as well as other States to facilitate a peaceful and comprehensive solution through dialogue and stresses the importance of working to reduce tensions on the Korean Peninsula and beyond.

One of the priorities of Mongolian foreign policy is to be engaged in Asia-Pacific multilateral cooperation and to lend proactive support to the policies and activities aimed at strengthening strategic stability and security cooperation in East Asia, North-East Asia and Central Asia. Within this framework, Mongolia came forward in 2013 with the initiative of holding the "Ulaanbaatar Dialogue on Northeast Asian Security" and the fourth such international conference was successfully held on 15 and 16 June 2017 in Ulaanbaatar. If the previous three conferences were organized at the track 2 level, the 2017 conference was held at the track 1.5 level. Government representatives and academicians of Canada, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, France, Germany, Japan, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the United States of America, as well as representatives of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia, the Economic Research Institute for Northeast Asia, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization were among the participants in the conference.

The agenda of the fourth conference included not only security issues pertaining to North-East Asia but also potential projects in the energy, infrastructure and environmental sectors. Many interesting ideas and perspectives were expressed by the participants on the main topics of the conference. Presentations offered diverse analyses of the present situation in North-East Asia, its security environment, the strategic interests of relevant countries and perspectives for the future.

North-East Asia is the only subregion without any established mechanism for security cooperation. Participants highlighted the importance of engagement during the conference, stressing that engagement should be an important prerequisite for any dialogue to succeed. Mongolia has been consistently encouraging the constructive engagement of all countries, including the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in de-escalating the tension and resolving the outstanding issues.

The conference proved once again that the Ulaanbaatar Dialogue continues to enjoy broad support. For instance, as Noboru Miyawaki of Ritsumeikan University noted, the Ulaanbaatar Dialogue was the only setting that covered all the political entities in North-East Asia. Indeed, Mongolia is the only country in the region that does not have any unresolved issues, be they territorial or political, with other countries in the region, or with any other country for that matter. Our aim is to provide a neutral ground for constructive dialogue and engagement.

The Government of Mongolia will continue its efforts to facilitate a peaceful and comprehensive solution to the outstanding issues in and around the Korean Peninsula and will hold the fifth Ulaanbaatar Dialogue on 14 and 15 June 2018, under the theme "Northeast Asian Security Environment towards 2025".

3. Conclusion

Mongolia stands committed to the implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions and to cooperating closely with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006).